

2902 Briarhurst #1004
Houston, TX 77057

6286 '99 MAY 24, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket No. 98N-1038 - Irradiation in the Production, Processing and Handling of Food

Dear Madam or Sir:

If there is in fact no harm in the irradiation of food, then there should be no objection to honestly and clearly labeling it as such. I support the recommendation by the Center for Science in the Public Interest regarding labeling of irradiated foods which states:

...any foods, or any foods containing ingredients that have been treated by irradiation, should be labeled with a written statement on the principal display panel indicating such treatment. The statement should be easy to read and placed in close proximity to the name of the food and accompanied by the international symbol. If the food is unpackaged, this information should be clearly displayed on a poster in plain view and adjacent to where the product is displayed for sale.

The terms "treated with radiation" or "treated by radiation" should be retained. I strongly object to using the word "pasteurization" because it is NOT the same as irradiation.

I also urge you to extend the public comment period past the current date of May 18, 1999 so that the public has adequate time to become familiar with the issues. Also, please place the comments received on the Internet so that the public can be informed about who is participating in this comment process.

I AM NOT PROPOSING THAT FOOD IRRADIATION BE OUTLAWED - I ONLY WANT
TO BE FULLY INFORMED OF THE PRODUCT I AM BUYING.

Sincerely,



Lesly Van Dame, CPA

cc: Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Senator Phil Gramm
Congressman Bill Archer

98N 1038

C2526



Ms. Lesly Van Dame
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